

Patent Application
Docket No. 51582-00001USPT

EXHIBIT "B" - PENDING CLAIMS

1 1. A pre-paid airline ticket comprising a record of an advance-purchase of an airline
2 ticket for a fixed price that may be used by a customer to book a flight, the pre-paid airline ticket
3 including an identifier, the identifier uniquely identifying the pre-paid airline ticket, and,
4 associated with the identifier, a plurality of geographic flight parameters and a plurality of non-
5 geographic flight parameters, at least one of the plurality of geographic flight parameters being
6 an unspecified geographic flight parameter.

1 2. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the identifier comprises an alpha-
2 numeric sequence.

1 3. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the plurality of non-geographic
2 flight parameters comprise a date, a time, a flight number, and a seat.

1 4. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the plurality of non-geographic
2 flight parameters further comprise one or more unspecified non-geographic flight parameters.

1 5. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 4 wherein the one or more unspecified non-
2 geographic flight parameters comprise a range of possible values from which the one or more
3 unspecified non-geographic flight parameters may be selected.

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1 6. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 wherein the plurality of geographic flight
2 parameters comprise a departure location and a destination.

1 7. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a dependence between
2 two or more of the plurality of geographic flight parameters.

1 8. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a
2 maximum distance between the destination and the departure location.

1 9. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a
2 geographical region from which the departure location and the destination must be selected.

1 10. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a
2 geographical region from which the departure location must be selected for a specified
3 destination.

1 11. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 7 wherein the dependence comprises a
2 geographical region from which the destination must be selected for a specified departure
3 location.

1 12. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a wallet-sized card, the
2 wallet sized card including a magnetic strip, the magnetic strip comprising an encoded
3 representation of the unique identifier.

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1 13. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a wallet-sized card, the
2 wallet-sized card including a bar code, the bar code comprising an encoded representation of
3 the unique identifier.

1 14. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising a printed receipt, the
2 printed receipt including a first part for presentation to an airline and a second part for a
3 customer's records, the printed receipt including, in printed form, the unique identifier, the
4 plurality of non-geographic flight parameters, and the plurality of geographic flight parameters.

1 15. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising an electronic receipt, the
2 electronic receipt including, in electronic form, the unique identifier.

1 16. The pre-paid airline ticket of claim 1 further comprising an email receipt, the
2 email receipt including, in electronic form, the unique identifier.

1 34. (Amended) A method for providing pre-paid airline tickets comprising:
2 storing a plurality of ticket options in a ticket option database, each ticket option
3 comprising a ticket price and a plurality of flight parameters, at least one of the plurality of flight
4 parameters being an unspecified geographic flight parameter;
5 presenting the ticket options to a customer;
6 receiving a ticket selection from the customer;
7 receiving a payment from the customer, the payment being equal to the ticket
8 price;
9 associating a unique identifier with the selected ticket option;

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10 storing the unique identifier and the associated ticket option; and
11 providing a pre-paid airline ticket to the customer, the pre-paid airline ticket
12 comprising a record of the unique identifier and a record of one or more of the plurality of
13 geographic flight parameters.

1 35. The method of claim 34 further comprising booking a flight using the pre-paid
2 airline ticket.

1 36. The method of claim 35 wherein booking a flight is performed interactively using
2 the World Wide Web.

1 37. The method of claim 34 further comprising periodically updating the ticket option
2 database from a remote airline server.

1 38. The method of claim 34 wherein receiving a payment from the customer further
2 comprises transferring funds for the customer using a remote financial transaction server.

1 39. The method of claim 34 wherein providing a pre-paid airline ticket further
2 comprises generating a wallet-sized card with the unique identifier encoded in a magnetic strip.

1 40. The method of claim 34 wherein providing a pre-paid airline ticket further
2 comprises generating a wallet-sized card with the unique identifier encoded in a bar code.

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1 41. The method of claim 34 wherein providing a pre-paid airline ticket further
2 comprises generating a printed receipt, the printed receipt including a first part for presentation
3 to an airline and a second part for the customer's records, the printed receipt including, in printed
4 form, the unique identifier and the plurality of flight parameters.

1 42. The method of claim 1 wherein a plurality of pre-paid airline tickets are provided
2 to a wholesale customer, the wholesale customer further reselling one or more of the pre-paid
3 airline tickets to a retail customer.

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5 43. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing an electronic bulleting board
6 where a plurality of customers resell pre-paid airline tickets.

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8 44. A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium for providing
9 pre-paid airline tickets using a pre-paid ticket identifier database, the database comprising a
10 plurality of records, each record including a plurality of fields, the plurality of fields comprising:
11 an identifier field the identifier field including an identifier that uniquely identifies a pre-
12 paid airline ticket; and
13 a plurality of geographic flight parameter fields and a plurality of non-geographic flight
14 parameter fields, at least one of the plurality of geographic flight parameter fields including an
15 unspecified geographic flight parameter.

1 45. The computer program of claim 44 wherein the identifier included in the identifier
2 field comprises an alpha-numeric sequence.

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1 46. The computer program of claim 44 wherein the plurality of non-geographic flight
2 parameter fields include a restrictions field, the restrictions field including any restrictions on use
3 of an associated pre-paid airline ticket.

1 47 The computer program of claim 44 wherein the unspecified geographic flight
2 parameter comprises a plurality of choices from which the unspecified geographic flight
3 parameter may be specified.

1 48. The computer program of claim 44 wherein the plurality of geographic flight
2 parameter fields include an allowed destinations field and an allowed departures field.

1 49. The computer program of claim 44 wherein the plurality of geographic flight
2 parameter fields include a region field, the region field providing information which establishes
3 a dependence between an allowed destinations field and an allowed departures field.